GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1436
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
RECOVERY OF DUES BY NPC
B.K. PARTHASARATHI;GUNIPATI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the State Electricity Boards are reluctantto purchase electricity from the Nuclear power corporation (NPC) as it is expensive in comparison to Thermal/Hydel Power;

(b) if so, the outstanding amount to be recovered by NPC from the State Electricity Boards; and

(c) the steps taken to bring nuclear power rates at par with Thermal/Hydel Power?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINIST OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) During the financial year 2001-02, nuclear power stations generated about 19,200 Million Units of Electricity at a capacity factor of about 85%. The total power was absorbed by the concerned Sate Electricity Boards (SEBs) as per their allocations except for a few, who for their own reasons did not agree to take their share. In such cases the power has been diverted to other interested SEBs. In regard to generation tariff, it varies from station to station depending on the capital cost or the level at which tariffs have been negotiated. The average tariff from all nuclear power stations, for the year 2001-02 was 239 paise/kwh which is quite comparable with the tariffs at which power is being offered by the thermal power stations.

(b) The total outstanding amount to be received by NPCIL from different SEBs, as on 30.9.2002 is Rs.4044 crore inclusive of Delayed Payment Charges of Rs.1707 crore.

(c) NPCIL is taking appropriate steps to reduce the gestation period of the projects by standardisation of designs, adopting modern construction methods and better project management techniques. In addition, the unit sizes of the reactors are also progressively increased to get economy of scale in operation.